

comments on the environmental assessment, maximum economic recovery, and fair market value of federal coal to be offered. An application for coal lease was filed by National King Coal, LLC requesting the Bureau of Land Management offer for competitive lease 194.79 acres of federal coal in La Plata County, Colorado.

**DATES:** The public hearing will be held at 7 p.m., December 18, 1997. Written comments should be received no later than December 30, 1997.

**ADDRESSES:** The public hearing will be held in the Federal Building, 701 Camino Del Rio, Room 110, Durango, Colorado 81301. Written comments should be addressed to the Bureau of Land Management, Area Manager, San Juan Basin Resource Area, Federal Building, Room 203, 701 Camino Del Rio, Durango, Colorado 81301.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Cal Joyner, Area Manager, San Juan Basin Resource Area Office at the address above, or by telephone at (970) 247-1289.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Bureau of Land Management, Colorado State Office, Lakewood, Colorado, hereby gives notice that a public hearing will be held on December 18, 1997, at 7 p.m., in the Federal Building at the address given above.

An application for coal lease was filed by National King Coal, LLC, requesting the Bureau of Land Management offer for competitive lease federal coal in the lands outside established coal production regions described as:

T. 34 N., R. 11 W., N.M.P.M.

Sec. 6, lots 1 to 5, inclusive, NESW, and NWSE;

Containing 194.79 acres.

The coal resource to be offered is limited to coal recoverable by underground mining methods.

The purpose of the hearing is to obtain public comments on the environmental assessment and on the following items:

(1) The method of mining to be employed to obtain maximum economic recovery of the coal,

(2) The impact that mining the coal in the proposed leasehold may have on the area, and

(3) The methods of determining the fair market value of the coal to be offered.

Written requests to testify orally at the December 18, 1997, public hearing should be received at the San Juan Resource Area Office prior to the close of business December 18, 1997. Those who indicate they wish to testify when they register at the hearing may have an opportunity if time is available.

In addition, the public is invited to submit written comments concerning the fair market value and maximum economic recovery of the coal resource. Public comments will be utilized in establishing fair market value for the coal resource in the described lands. Comments should address specific factors related to fair market value including, but not limited to:

1. The quality and quantity of the coal resource.

2. The price that the mined coal would bring in the market place.

3. The cost of producing the coal.

4. The interest rate at which anticipated income streams would be discounted.

5. Depreciation and other accounting factors.

6. The mining method or methods which would achieve maximum economic recovery of the coal.

7. Documented information on the terms and conditions of recent and similar coal land transactions in the lease area, and

8. Any comparable sales data of similar coal lands.

Should any information submitted as comments be considered to be proprietary by the commenter, the information should be labeled as such and stated in the first page of the submission. Written comments on the environmental assessment, maximum economic recovery, and fair market value should be sent to the San Juan Resource Area Office at the above address prior to close of business on December 18, 1997.

Substantive comments, whether written or oral, will receive equal consideration prior to any lease offering.

The Draft Environmental Assessment and Maximum Economic Recovery Report are available from the San Juan Resource Area Office upon request.

A copy of the Draft Environmental Assessment, the Maximum Economic Recovery Report, the case file, and the comments submitted by the public, except those portions identified as proprietary by the commenter and meeting exemptions stated in the Freedom of Information Act, will be available for public inspection at the Colorado State Office, 2850 Youngfield, Lakewood, Colorado, 80215.

Dated: November 20, 1997.

**Karen A. Purvis,**

*Solid Minerals Team, Resource Services.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

(AK-910-0777-51)

#### Iditarod Advisory Council Meeting

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of Iditarod Advisory Council Meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Iditarod Advisory Council will conduct an open meeting Wednesday, January 7, 1998, and Thursday, January 8, 1998, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the formation of a non-profit organization to assist in the management of the Iditarod National Historic Trail. The meeting will be held at the BLM Anchorage District Office at 6881 Abbott Loop Road in Anchorage.

Public comments pertaining to management of the Iditarod National Historic Trail will be taken from 1-2 p.m. Wednesday, January 7. Written comments may be submitted at the meeting or mailed to the address below prior to the meeting.

**ADDRESS:** Inquiries about the meeting should be sent to External Affairs, Bureau of Land Management, 222 W. 7th Avenue, #13, Anchorage, Alaska 99513-7599.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Teresa McPherson at (907) 271-5555.

Dated: November 18, 1997.

**Nick Douglas,**

*Anchorage District Manager.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[NV-923-1990-00]

#### Mining Claims Under the General Mining Laws; Surface Management: Forms of Legal Financial Guarantees Allowable Under Nevada State Law

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) amended the surface management regulations at 43 CFR subpart 3809 on February 28, 1997 (62 FR 9093). The amendment requires each BLM State Director to consult with the appropriate State authorities to determine which financial instruments in 43 CFR 3809.1-9(k) are allowable under State law. Nevada State law